### Message

From: Epp, Timothy [Epp.Timothy@epa.gov]

**Sent**: 10/1/2020 2:56:51 PM

**To**: Albergottie, Daniele [Albergottie.Daniele@epa.gov]

CC: Grzegozewski, Nicholas [Grzegozewski.Nicholas@epa.gov]; Newman, Maya [Newman.Maya@epa.gov]; Powell-

Dickson, Antoinette [Powell-Dickson.Antoinette@epa.gov]; Starfield, Lawrence [Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov]; Mckeever, Michele [Mckeever.Michele@epa.gov]; Frigerio, Lorry [Frigerio.Lorry@epa.gov]; Badalamente, Mark

[Badalamente.Mark@epa.gov]; Layne, Kenda [Layne.Kenda@epa.gov]

Subject: RE: OECA FOIA backlog reduction for FY 2021

This works perfectly. Thanks, Tim

### Timothy R. Epp

Associate General Counsel | <u>National FOIA Office</u>
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Office of General Counsel
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (MC 2310A)
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From: Albergottie, Daniele <Albergottie.Daniele@epa.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 01, 2020 10:46 AM **To:** Epp, Timothy <Epp.Timothy@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Grzegozewski, Nicholas <Grzegozewski.Nicholas@epa.gov>; Newman, Maya <Newman.Maya@epa.gov>; Powell-Dickson, Antoinette <Powell-Dickson.Antoinette@epa.gov>; Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>; Mckeever, Michele <Mckeever.Michele@epa.gov>; Frigerio, Lorry <Frigerio.Lorry@epa.gov>; Badalamente, Mark <Badalamente.Mark@epa.gov>; Layne, Kenda <Layne.Kenda@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: OECA FOIA backlog reduction for FY 2021

#### Tim:

Please see my counter to the proposed FY2021 OECA metric (in Blue). The adjustments take into account where OECA ended up for the end of the metric season (September 2020), approximately 13 - 14 overdue OECA FOIA requests. Other adjustments take into account the fluctuations we noted this past year in processing FOIA requests at certain times of the year and the backlog of COVID-19 FOIA requests that are coming due in October, incoming FOIA requests anticipated pending election results, as well as projected leave from staff during the month of December. I anticipate that staff can accomplish the counter-proposed metric with a lot of effort and support. They have been engaged and ready to tackle this. We just need to continue to support them. Let me know your thoughts.

	Metric ID	Performance Metric Title	Actual YTD as of Aug 2020	1- Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Α
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Office of Enforcement												
and Compliance	Proposed											
Assurance			<del>17</del> <del>16</del>	<del>15</del>	<del>1</del> 4	<del>13</del>	<del>12</del>	<del>11</del>	<del>10</del>	9		7
(OECA)		18	14 14	13	12	11	10	9	9	8	8	7

# Regards,

Daniele Albergottie, Sr.

Director, Information Technology Division
Office of Administration and Policy (OAP)
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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#### END TRANSMISSION

From: Epp, Timothy < <a href="mailto:Epp.Timothy@epa.gov">Epp.Timothy@epa.gov</a>>
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:53 PM

To: Albergottie, Daniele <<u>Albergottie.Daniele@epa.gov</u>>; Newman, Maya <<u>Newman.Maya@epa.gov</u>>; Powell-Dickson,

Antoinette < Powell-Dickson. Antoinette@epa.gov>; Seaton, Tom < Seaton. Tom@epa.gov>; Starfield, Lawrence

<<u>Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov</u>>; Mckeever, Michele <<u>Mckeever.Michele@epa.gov</u>>; Frigerio, Lorry

<<u>Frigerio.Lorry@epa.gov</u>>; Badalamente, Mark <<u>Badalamente.Mark@epa.gov</u>>

Cc: Grzegozewski, Nicholas < Grzegozewski. Nicholas@epa.gov>

Subject: OECA FOIA backlog reduction for FY 2021

Dear Larry, Mark and all,

Congratulations. OECA made progress in the first 11 months of FY2020 reducing the backlog of FOIA requests. We now need to set targets for FY2021.

At the end of August 2020, the Office of Air and Radiation had a FOIA backlog of 18, down from 26 a year earlier. **To** reduce this backlog by OECA's allocated share to achieve the Agency's end of FY21 goal, OECA should reduce its backlog by 1 each month, down to 6 by the end of FY 2021. Please let me know by Friday, October 2, if you would like to propose monthly reductions that are different from the following straight-line glide path:

Metric ID	Performance Metric Title		Actual YTD as of Aug 2020	1- Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Α
	Office of Enforcement and Compliance	Proposed													
	Assurance (OECA)		18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	

As you know, the Agency set a long-term performance goal in the FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan to eliminate the Agency's FOIA backlog by FY 2022. An intermediate goal was established to reduce the backlog to 635 by the end of FY 2021 (that is a 75% reduction from the April 2018 baseline of 2,527). To achieve the intermediate goal for the end of September 2021, the Agency as a whole will need to reduce the backlog by 61 requests each month for 13 months, using the backlog at the end of August 2020 as the new baseline.

Let me know if you have any questions or would like to talk about the monthly targets.

Thanks, Tim

# Timothy R. Epp

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